GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6964
ANSWERED ON:13.05.2002
EXTINCTION OF RARE ANIMALS AND BIRDS
A.F. GOLAM OSMANI;SHYAMA SINGH

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Rare animals, birds facing extinction in NE` appearing in the `Hindu`dated April 15, 2002;

(b) if so, whether due to export of animal parts and consumption of meat of rare animals and birds, the said animals and birds are on brink of extinction;

(c) if so, whether the Government have taken up the matter with the concerned States in NE;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the plans formulated to check extinction of such rare animals and birds?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Export of all wild animals and their products is banned under the Export Policy of India. Some instances of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife products are reported from time to time.

(c), (d) & (e) Prime Minister of India has written a letter to the Chief Ministers of all the States regarding filling up of all the vacancies in the Forest Departments and to provide the field formation with better mobility, improved communication facilities and sophisticated weapons. Government of India has year-marked funds under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes for conservation and protection of wildlife for North Eastern states.